

WAC 197-11-960 Environmental Checklist.

ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

Purpose of checklist:

The State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA), chapter 43.21C RCW, requires all governmental agencies to consider the environmental impacts of a proposal before making decisions. An environmental impact statement (EIS) must be prepared for all proposals with probable significant adverse impacts on the quality of the environment. The purpose of this checklist is to provide information to help you and the agency identify impacts from your proposal (and to reduce or avoid impacts from the proposal, if it can be done) and to help the agency decide whether an EIS is required.

Instructions for applicants:

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Governmental agencies use this checklist to determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant, requiring preparation of an EIS. Answer the questions briefly, with the most precise information known, or give the best description you can.

You must answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. In most cases, you should be able to answer the questions from your own observations or project plans without the need to hire experts. If you really do not know the answer, or if a question does not apply to your proposal, write "do not know" or "does not apply." Complete answers to the questions now may avoid unnecessary delays later.

Some questions ask about governmental regulations, such as zoning, shoreline, and landmark designations. Answer these questions if you can. If you have problems, the governmental agencies can assist you.

The checklist questions apply to all parts of your proposal, even if you plan to do them over a period of time or on different parcels of land. Attach any additional information that will help describe your proposal or its environmental effects. The agency to which you submit this checklist may ask you to explain your answers or provide additional information reasonably related to determining if there may be significant adverse impact.

Use of checklist for nonproject proposals:

Complete this checklist for nonproject proposals, even though questions may be answered "does not apply." IN ADDITION, complete the SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS (part D).

For nonproject actions, the references in the checklist to the words "project," "applicant," and "property or site" should be read as "proposal," "proposer," and "affected geographic area," respectively.

A. BACKGROUND

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable: *Umtanum Creek Bridge Deck Repair*
2. Name of applicant: *Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife*
3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:

*Washington Dept of Fish and Wildlife
Capitol Programs & Engineering Division
600 Capitol Way North
Olympia, WA 98501-1091*

*Contact Person: Marty Peoples
Fish and Wildlife Biologist
Telephone Number: (360) 902-8426
Fax Number: (360) 902-8367
E-Mail: peoplmdp@dfw.wa.gov*

4. Date checklist prepared: **May 15, 2012**

5. Agency requesting checklist: **WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE**

6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):

WDFW proposes to do this project in summer of 2012.

7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain.

No additional activity is planned for this project.

8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal.

No additional biological information will be prepared.

9. Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain.

There are no known pending applications associated with or affecting this project.

10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known.

A WDFW Hydraulic Project Approval and possible Yakima County Shoreline Exemption.

11. Give brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page. (Lead agencies may modify this form to include additional specific information on project description.)

WDFW proposes to perform routine maintenance on a steel bridge in place over Umtanum Creek on the Umtanum Wildlife Area. The wood planks on the driving surface of this bridge are damaged and decaying. WDFW proposes to replace the wood planks. This is a lightly used crossing but must be maintained to guarantee public safety. No work will be done to the bank, bridge abutments, or below Ordinary High Water.

The specific components of this project are:

- 1. Install debris barrier under the bridge to prevent any construction debris from falling into stream waters. This*

barrier will ensure that no adverse impacts resulting from construction will occur to the stream.

2. *Remove dilapidated wood planks from steel bridge. Clean surface and remove old bolts as necessary.*
3. *Install 36 wood planks on driving surface of the bridge. Each plank will be 12 feet long, 12 inches wide and 4 inches high. Planks will be bolted onto steel bridge frame.*
4. *Remove construction debris from site and haul to landfill. Remove debris barrier from under stream.*

12. Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including a street address, if any, and section, township, and range, if known. If a proposal would occur over a range of area, provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Provide a legal description, site plan, vicinity map, and topographic map, if reasonably available. While you should submit any plans required by the agency, you are not required to duplicate maps or detailed plans submitted with any permit applications related to this checklist.

The project site is located in the Umtanum Wildlife Area near the town of Ellensburg. This site is reached by exiting off of Interstate 90 at main Ellensburg exit and heading .4 of a mile towards downtown area. Turn left on Umtanum Creek Road and proceed out of town, over the Yakima River, up Shushuskin Canyon and on to the first bridge site on Umtanum Creek. This site is approximately 11 miles from Ellensburg. The project site is in Yakima County, Section 1, Township 16 North, Range 17 East.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1. Earth

a. General description of the site (circle one): Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other

b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)?

30%.

c. What general types of soils are found on the site (for example, clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)? If you know the classification of agricultural soils, specify them and note any prime farmland.

The soil is classified as Logy cobbly silt loam. Most of the site however is surfaced with imported crushed rock aggregate.

d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe.

There are no indications of unstable soils.

- e. Describe the purpose, type, and approximate quantities of any filling or grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.

There will no filling or grading involved with this project.

- f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe.

No, erosion is very unlikely since no soil will be disturbed and machinery will be operated on established driving surfaces.

- g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)?

The specific site is 100% covered by impervious surfaces consisting of wood and steel. There will be no increase in impervious surfaces at this specific site as a result of this project.

- h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any:

Any potential construction debris will be prevented falling into the stream. A silt/debris curtain will be suspended underneath the bridge and above the water to prevent lumber, dirt or steel fragments from falling into Umtanum Creek.

2. Air

- a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal (i.e., dust, automobile, odors, industrial wood smoke) during construction and when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known.

Vehicle exhaust and dust from construction is expected. No long-term change in emissions is expected from the completed project.

- b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe.

No.

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any:

Equipment will be maintained and inspected to ensure proper function of all emissions control equipment.

3. Water

- a. Surface:

- 1) Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (including year-round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes, ponds, wetlands)? If yes, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into.

Umtanum Creek is within the project site.

- 2) Will the project require any work over, in, or adjacent to (within 200 feet) the described waters? If yes, please describe and attach available plans.

Yes, all components of this project are directly adjacent to and over Umtanum Creek. These activities are described in the attached drawings.

- 3) Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands and indicate the area of the site that would be affected. Indicate the source of fill material.

No fill material will be placed into the stream or taken from the stream.

- 4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

No.

- 5) Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan.

No.

- 6) Does the proposal involve any discharges of waste materials to surface waters? If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge.

No waste material will be discharged into surface waters.

b. Ground:

- 1) Will ground water be withdrawn, or will water be discharged to ground water? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

No.

- 2) Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (for example: Domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals. . . ; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve.

No domestic or industrial sewage is onsite and no waste material will be discharged from this source. Agricultural chemicals will not be applied as part of this project or as a result of this project.

c. Water Runoff (including stormwater):

- 1) Describe the source of runoff (including storm water) and method of collection and disposal, if any (include quantities, if known). Where will this water flow? Will this water flow into other waters? If so, describe.

The source of runoff at the construction site would be precipitation, which is expected to be minimal during the summer construction period. Storm water treatment will not be changed or affected in any way. Currently storm water flows from the bridge and driving surfaces and is infiltrated within grass filter strips at the edge of roadways.

- 2) Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe.

With the implementation of impact minimization measures, no waste materials are anticipated to enter ground or surface waters.

- d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water impacts, if any:

General Impact Reduction Measures

- 1. Any storm water runoff will be contained using erosion control Best Management Practices. Specifically, a debris curtain will be installed under the bridge to protect the stream from construction debris.*
- 2. Equipment will be washed before entering the job site and inspected daily for fuel or lubricant leaks.*
- 3. Equipment staging and fueling areas will be completely isolated from surface waters to avoid the possibility of impacts to surface waters resulting from fueling or staging activities.*

4. Plants

- a. Check or circle types of vegetation found on the site:

- deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other
- evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other
- shrubs
- grass
- pasture
- crop or grain
- wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other
- water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other
- other types of vegetation

- b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?

Disturbance of vegetation will be avoided. Work will occur on driving surfaces only.

- c. List threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.

No threatened or endangered plant species are known to occur in this area.

- d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any:

No plantings will be done as part of this project.

5. Animals

- a. Circle any birds and animals which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site:

birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other: waterfowl

mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other:

fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other:

- b. List any threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.

No endangered species are known to occur near this site. Bull trout may possibly utilize this area for spawning.

- c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain.

Elk and deer use this area as part of a migration route.

- d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any:

To preserve fish resources, WDFW will schedule this project during periods of minimal use by fish species to avoid any harmful impacts upon fish.

6. Energy and Natural Resources

- a. What kinds of energy (electric, natural gas, oil, wood stove, solar) will be used to meet the completed project's energy needs? Describe whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc.

The completed project will not require energy consumption.

- b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe.

This project will not affect solar energy use.

- c. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any:

No energy conservation features are included and no impacts are anticipated.

7. Environmental health

- a. Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste that could occur as a result of this proposal? If so, describe.

Materials likely to be present include gasoline and diesel fuel, hydraulic fluid and lubricants. An accidental spill of one these products could occur during project operations.

- 1) Describe special emergency services that might be required.

None anticipated.

- 2) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:

A spill prevention and pollution control plan will be prepared by WDFW project engineers to reduce risk of spills and to provide guidance if a spill occurs.

b. Noise

- 1) What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)?

None.

- 2) What types and levels of noise would be created by or associated with the project on a short-term or a long-term basis (for example: traffic, construction, operation, other)? Indicate what hours noise would come from the site.

Increased levels of noise during construction activities are expected from this project. Hours of increased noise levels will be 7am to 6pm. No change in noise level is expected from the completed project.

- 3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any:

None planned.

8. Land and shoreline use

- a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties?

The current use is a wildlife area set aside for protection of habitat and public access. The adjacent properties include several private home sites.

- b. Has the site been used for agriculture? If so, describe.

No agricultural practices occur here.

c. Describe any structures on the site.

The only structure on this site is the steel railroad car bridge.

d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what?

No structures will be demolished.

e. What is the current zoning classification of the site?

Remote/Extremely Limited

f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?

Remote/Extremely Limited

g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?

N/A

h. Has any part of the site been classified as an "environmentally sensitive" area? If so, specify.

The area is classified as Mule Deer and Elk winter range and Bighorn sheep annual range in WDFW Priority Habitats and Species Database.

i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?

No people reside or will reside on this site.

j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?

None

k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any:

None

l. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any:

This project will be consistent with WDFW Wildlife Area planned uses which provides for public access.

9. Housing

- a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

Housing will not be affected.

- b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

No housing units will be eliminated.

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any:

None planned.

10. Aesthetics

- a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed?

The bridge rail will extend approximately one foot above the bridge deck.

- b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed?

No views will be affected.

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any:

None planned.

11. Light and glare

- a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur?

No change will result in glare.

- b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views?

No. This project is not expected to result in safety hazards or altered views.

c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal?

None

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any:

None

12. Recreation

a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity?

There are fishing and wildlife viewing opportunities near this site.

b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe.

No recreational activities will be permanently displaced. The access will be closed for a two week period while repairs are being made

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any:

WDFW will provide adequate public notice of closure period and conduct repairs in a timely manner to reduce bridge closure time.

13. Historic and cultural preservation

a. Are there any places or objects listed on, or proposed for, national, state, or local preservation registers known to be on or next to the site? If so, generally describe.

The Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation records database was checked to ensure that no currently listed objects or places occur at this site.

b. Generally describe any landmarks or evidence of historic, archaeological, scientific, or cultural importance known to be on or next to the site.

None are known.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts, if any:

Work will not include any ground disturbance and removal of earth.

14. Transportation

a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site, and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any.

Umtanum Creek Road provides direct access to this site. Access will not be altered.

- b. Is site currently served by public transit? If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?

The site is not served by public transit. The nearest stop is 11 miles away at Ellensburg.

- c. How many parking spaces would the completed project have? How many would the project eliminate?

The project will not affect or alter parking spaces.

- d. Will the proposal require any new roads or streets, or improvements to existing roads or streets, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private).

This project will not impact any roads.

- e. Will the project use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe.

No

- f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur.

No additional vehicle trips are anticipated to result from this project.

- g. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any:

None

15. Public services

- a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe.

No

- b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any.

None

16. Utilities

- a. Circle utilities currently available at the site: electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system, other.

- b. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed.

No utilities will be added or changed as a result of this project.

C. SIGNATURE

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.

Signature: Martin Peoples
Date Submitted: May 15, 2012

D. SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS

(do not use this sheet for project actions)

Because these questions are very general, it may be helpful to read them in conjunction with the list of the elements of the environment.

When answering these questions, be aware of the extent the proposal, or the types of activities likely to result from the proposal, would affect the item at a greater intensity or at a faster rate than if the proposal were not implemented. Respond briefly and in general terms.

1. How would the proposal be likely to increase discharge to water; emissions to air; production, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances; or production of noise?

This proposal would not increase any items listed above.

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are:

None proposed.

2. How would the proposal be likely to affect plants, animals, fish, or marine life?

This proposal would not likely result in any change to plant, animal, fish or marine life.

Proposed measures to protect or conserve plants, animals, fish, or marine life are:

No measures proposed.

3. How would the proposal be likely to deplete energy or natural resources?

No effect on energy or natural resources.

Proposed measures to protect or conserve energy and natural resources are:

No measures proposed.

4. How would the proposal be likely to use or affect environmentally sensitive areas or areas designated (or eligible or under study) for governmental protection; such as parks, wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, threatened or endangered species habitat, historic or cultural sites, wetlands, floodplains, or prime farmlands?

This proposal is not likely to affect areas listed above.

Proposed measures to protect such resources or to avoid or reduce impacts are:

No measures proposed.

5. How would the proposal be likely to affect land and shoreline use, including whether it would allow or encourage land or shoreline uses incompatible with existing plans?

This proposal will not alter shoreline or land use.

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce shoreline and land use impacts are:

No measures proposed.

6. How would the proposal be likely to increase demands on transportation or public services and utilities?

Not applicable.

Proposed measures to reduce or respond to such demand(s) are:

No measures proposed.

7. Identify, if possible, whether the proposal may conflict with local, state, or federal laws or requirements for the protection of the environment.

This proposal does not conflict with environmental protection laws or requirements.